



The Capacity Fund for Forest & Nature

TBI Suriname offers additional support to Capacity Building in the Forest and Nature Sector

On 01 December 2008 Tropenbos International Suriname (TBI Suriname) signed a contract with the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands through which it was commissioned the implementation and management of the Capacity Fund for Forest & Nature (Capaciteitsfonds Bos & Natuur: CBN). The funding facility is operational for 4 years, until the end of 2012. During the first 3 years applicants may submit proposals for funding; the fourth year is an out-facing period during which ongoing projects are allowed to be completed by the end of that year.

The contract covers a gross total of € 720,000 of which € 627,800 (87 %) is available for supporting capacity development in the forest & nature sector. The remainder covers all operational costs, including the design of the CBN website and promotion materials & activities (2.2 %), third party review of applications (1.8 %), third party financial audits (2.2 %) and the overall management (6.8 %).

Objective of the CBN fund

The objective of the CBN fund is "to improve professionalism at executive and lower- & middle management level in sustainable forestry, including timber processing, nature conservation and eco-tourism in Suriname, thus contributing to enhanced performance of both people and organizations". In reaching this objective, the CBN fund supports a wide range of initiatives taken by the public and private sector as well as civil society and community based organizations. These initiatives may cover vocational training, management support and the development of awareness- and training materials.

Priority themes and target groups

Priority is given to proposals relating to:

- Forest management: e.g. policy, planning, surveillance, harvesting, processing and marketing
- Nature conservation: e.g. policy, planning, preservation, co-management, biodiversity monitoring and surveillance
- Products & services: e.g. timber and non-timber products, fresh water, clear air, erosion control, carbon sequestration, climate and eco-tourism

Project proposals should preferably aim at the enhancement of capacities of the following target groups:

- National and regional government organizations and semi-government institutes
- Private industry & trade business and organizations
- Civil society and community based organizations
- Institutes for research and education

The applications may be submitted by the targeted groups themselves or by supportive third parties in preparing and submitting proposals on their behalf.

Procedure and conditions

Project proposals may be submitted at any time until 31 December 2011, for which standard application and budget formats are available at the CBN website www.cbn-suriname.com. Besides the training in

Making knowledge work for forests and people



CBN Suriname

Capaciteitsfonds Bos & Natuur, voor scholing en capaciteitsversterking van de Surinaamse bos- en natuursector

itself, the development of training materials related to it may be included in the proposal. Contributions from the CBN are limited to a maximum of SRD 75,000 per application. In addition, own contributions range from 20 - 40 %. Applicants may submit more than one application during the course of the facility. An independent, five-member committee decides on the approval of proposals and allotment of grants.

Support in preparing applications

TBI Suriname offers support to target groups and potential applicants who may face difficulties in formulating their project proposal. This may be the case when:

- Applicants have difficulties in translating identified capacity gap(s) in concrete capacity needs
- Applicants face difficulties in finding the most suitable 'provider' for satisfying their capacity needs
- Applicants have problems in filling the application and/or budget format

The support given does not have any influence on the review of proposals, which is done by an independent committee in which TBI Suriname does not have a vote.

Why Tropenbos International Suriname

As a knowledge broker Tropenbos International Suriname aims at improving forest policy and forest management for the benefit of people, conservation and sustainable development. TBI's major products are knowledge, methods and techniques relevant to policy and forest management. Crucial to achieve these are research, institutional building, training and extension: *Making Knowledge Work for Forests and People*.

To make this happen, adequate capacity is needed at all levels within the forest sector, from forest workers to researchers and policy makers. Therefore, capacity building is firmly embedded within all TBI country programmes.

Within its core programme, TBI capacity building is primarily geared towards academic and post-academic training and institutional support, mainly through the creation of international partnerships between universities and academic research. During the initial phase of its Suriname programme TBI also identified a strong need for capacity enhancement at lower and middle staff levels within its partner organizations. Additional resources for addressing this need are now offered through the Capacity Fund for Forest & Nature (CBN), allowing TBI to support capacity building at all levels within the sector. As such TBI's major products (knowledge, methods and techniques) can contribute even more to improved forest policy formulation, sustainable forest management and forestry operations.

www.cbn-suriname.org

For more information:

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